

WAIVER OF VISA FEES FOR NONIMMIGRANTS

*Exchange of notes at Riga and Tallinn April 8 and July 28, 1925
Entered into force July 28, 1925*

Department of State files

The American Minister to the Estonian Minister of Foreign Affairs

RIGA, LATVIA
April 8, 1925

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to inform you that in virtue of a recent law, the Government of the United States is able to waive fees for passport visas and applications in favor of the classes of aliens defined as non-immigrants by Section III of the Immigration Act of 1924,¹ where the governments to which these travelers owe allegiance agree to waive visas in the case of American travelers of like classes. It should be understood that this proposal does not apply to immigrants, and does not in any case contemplate the abolition of the American visas but only waives fees, inasmuch as the requirement of a visa for passports is a means of assuring an effective administration of the Immigration Act. It may further be mentioned that the visa which it is proposed to issue gratis will be of additional value to non-immigrant aliens as distinguishing them from immigrants, and thus facilitating their entry on arrival at an American port.

I would be grateful if Your Excellency would inform me at your earliest convenience whether the Estonian Government is prepared to enter into a reciprocal agreement on the foregoing basis.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

F. W. B. COLEMAN
American Minister

His Excellency
CHR. R. PUSTA,
*Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Tallinn, Esthonia.*

¹ 43 Stat. 154.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the American Consulate

MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES
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TALLINN, *July 28th, 1925*

With reference to the memorandum of the American Consulate of June 15th last relative to the abolishment of visa fees in favor of non-immigrants, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honour to inform the American Consulate that the Esthonian Government agree on a basis of reciprocity to accept the proposal made in the note of the American Legation at Riga of April 8th 1925.

AMERICAN CONSULATE,
Tallinn.